

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 CIAE-00 CU-04 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 USIA-12

AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 ADP-00 SS-15 NSC-10

L-03 PA-03 PRS-01 OIC-04 RSR-01 /151 W

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R 121626Z JUL 73

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1736

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NESCO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: AORG, APER, UNESCO (M'BOW, A.)

SUBJECT: FURTHER CONVERSATIONS ON DG SUCCESSION AT UNESCO

1. ON JULY 11 ACTING PERM REP HAD CALL OF ISRAELI
AMB AVIDA AND IN TURN CALLED ON MEXICAN AMB CUEVAS
ON SUBJECT OF UNESCO DG SUCCESSION.

2. AMB AVIDA REPORTED LA GROUP HAD MET JULY 9 AND
THAT AMB CUEVAS HAD REPORTED GROUP HAD DECIDED TO
TAKE NO POSITION ON M'BOW CANDIDACY OR ANY OTHER'
CANDIDACY FOR DG AT THIS TIME. AVIDA CONCLUDED
CUEVAS HIMSELF REMAINED DEEPLY INTERESTED IN POST,
BUT NOT APPARENTLY YET SURE HOW TO LAUNCH HIS
CANDIDACY. AVIDA HIMSELF NOT ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT
M'BOW CANDIDACY, AS ISRAEL WOULD PREFER EUROPEAN
OR ASIAN. HE ASKED U.S. POSITION ON ISSUE AND WAS
TOLD U.S. NOT OPPOSED TO M'BOW CANDIDACY.

3. IN CONVERSATION WITH ACTING PERM REP, AMB CUEVAS
CONFIRMED AVIDA REPORT ABOVE AND ADDED THAT THE HAD
SUBMITTED M'BOW CANDIDACY TO LA GROUP ON REQUEST OF
AMB SENGHOR OF SENEGAL. CUEVAS REPORTED THAT
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ALTHOUGH GROUP HAD, AS NOTED, DECIDED NOT TO TAKE

POSITION ON ISSUE, BRAZIL CLEARLY IN FAVOR OF M'BOW, WHO IS ABOUT TO GO TO THAT COUNTRY ON INSPECTION VISIT TO UNESCO EDUCATION PROJECTS. BRAZILIAN AMB LEMA GAVE LUNCHEON IN M'BOW'S HONOR ON JULY 10 AT WHICH TIME BRAZIL'S SUPPORT FOR M'BOW'S CANDIDACY MADE CLEAR. CUEVAS SAID IN ADDITION THAT ALL FOUR BLACK CARIBBEAN STATES IN LA GROUP FAVORED MBOW. CUEVAS CONCLUDED THAT BETTANCOURT'S POSSIBLE COUNTER-CANDIDACY NOW CLOUDED BECAUSE OF POLITICAL CHANGES IN COLOMBIA WHICH LEAVE LATTER'S POLITICAL SUPPORT FROM HIS OWN GOVERNMENT LESS CLEAR THAN BEFORE. BETTANCOURT WAS NOT PRESENT AT LA GROUP MEETING.

4. CUEVAS NOTED THAT IN ASIAN GROUP HE UNDERSTANDS MOST OF SEA'S FAVOR M'BOW, MALAYSIA ALREADY STATING SO PUBLICLY AND THAT IN WE/O GROUP FRG CLEARLY IN FAVOR. ACTING PER REP CAN CONFIRM THAT M'BOW MADE EXCELLENT IMPRESSION ON GERMANS DURING RECENT VISIT TO THAT COUNTRY. HE WAS ACCOMPANIED BY ELSAESSER, FRG DEP PERM REP HERE.
IRWIN

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